DASARA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF 1901.

FOREST.

Subject No. 1.
Reduction of grazing fee.

Messrs. C. Srinvasa Rao of Chikmagalur and Chikvaderappa of Gundlupet Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) The rate of grazing fee of four annas now levied by the Forest Department on each head of cattle allowed to graze in State Forests is high. The rate may be reduced to two annas a head, or cattle for which fees have been paid for grazing in a particular State Forest may be permitted to graze in any other forest throughout the year without payment of extra fees.

(*b*) Owing to the failure of rains for the past few years the pasture lands in the villages do not afford sufficient supply of pasture and water for the village cattle. Out of the period of eight months allowed for grazing in State Forests, for which a fee of four annas is being levied by the Forest Department on each head of cattle, it is requested that no fee be charged for three months and, if this cannot be done, that a fee proportionate to the time during which the concession has been availed of be alone levied.

Reply of Government.—The rate cannot be reduced or remitted. It is lower than what prevails elsewhere, and the receipts are already insufficient for forest watch.

Subject No. 2.
License for export of tangadi and kakke barks.

Mr. Shamiah of Kankanhalli Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—*Mafi* license should be issued for the exportation of tangadi and kakke barks on private holdings and the present restriction removed.

Reply of Government.—The Deputy Commissioner will enquire into this on any individual cases being brought to his notice.

Subject No. 3.
Supply of bamboos.

Messrs. Nandi Basappa of Shimoga Taluk and Garudachar of Shimoga.

Summary of discussion.—Bamboos may be allowed free to raiyats for fencing purposes. This was represented in previous years but no orders were passed. If *sîbu* be a little thick, it is treated as bamboo by the subordinate officials. A few thicker ones are necessary for poles in fencing.

Reply of Government.—Raiyats are permitted to take bamboo thorns free, but not bamboos. The new District Forest Rules have not made any change in the existing arrangement. The District Officers will be instructed to carry out the rules considerately and in their spirit.

Subject No. 4.
Tax on fuel.

Messrs. Srinivasamurthi of Gorur, Srinivasa Rao and Magala Ramachendra Rao of Chikmagalur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) The levy of a tax of six pies on every head-load of fuel and the insistence of the production of a *Mafi* license from the Amildar, and in default the levying of six annas for every cart-load, even though

brought from occupied lands, have been causing considerable hardship to the people. This rule may be cancelled, as there are enough of forest officials to guard against the violation of the Forest Laws.

Reply of Government.—The question will be enquired into.

Messrs. B. Garudachar of Shimoga, M. Ramachendra Rao and Sreenivasa Rao of Chikmagalur.

Summary of discussion.—(*b*) The increase of seigniorage on firewood from two annas to four annas per cart-load presses heavily on people in Municipal towns in the Malnad parts, and so the former rate may be restored.

Reply of Government.—The rules were only introduced in January last. It is not possible to alter them so soon by reducing the rate.

Subject No. 5.

Free passes to remove firewood from private lands.

Messrs. C. Srinivasa Rao and Veerathegowda of Chikmagalur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) Planters and raiyats are now required to obtain free passes from the Amildar to bring firewood from their private coffee and other lands. This entails delay as they have to put in petitions and obtain passes from the Taluk office. The restriction should therefore be withdrawn.

Mr. A. Shama Rao of the North Mysore Planters' Association.

(*b*) Firewood may be allowed to be brought from coffee estates, on the licenses to be given by planters.

Do.

(*c*) The raiyats may be allowed to bring, without any license, green firewood as usual for boiling arecanut.

Reply of Government.—There seems to exist a certain amount of hardship. The transit rules are under consideration, and the matter will be dealt with soon in connection therewith.

Subject No. 6.

Raiyats to be given a share in the sale proceeds of sandalwood growing on their lands.

Messrs. M. Venkatakrishnaiya, M. Anantharajaiya, N. Srikantiah and C. Krishniengar of the Mysore City Municipality.

Mr. Sankaraiya of Heggaddevankote Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) The raiyats may be given a share in the sale proceeds of the sandalwood growing on their lands so that it may be an incentive to them for improving sandal conservancy.

(*b*) Provision may be made to pay $\frac{1}{4}$ of the proceeds realized from sale of sandal trees growing on occupied lands, to the owners thereof.

Reply of Government.—Noted for consideration.

Subject No. 7.

Establishment of cattle-pounds in forests.

Mr. Rangiengar of Channapatna Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The establishment of separate cattle pounds in forests causes much inconvenience to raiyats and should be abolished. Cattle, grazing in forests may be admitted into village cattle pounds and the amount realized credited to the Forest Department.

Reply of Government.—Cannot be done.